



Los Angeles County
Department of Regional Planning

Planning for the Challenges Ahead



Richard J. Bruckner
Director

June 6, 2011

TO: Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich, Mayor
Supervisor Gloria Molina
Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas
Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky
Supervisor Don Knabe

FROM: Richard J. Bruckner
Director

**SUBJECT: QUARTERLY STATUS REPORT ON BOARD MOTION REGARDING
RURAL ISSUES AND THE GENERAL PLAN UPDATE
(December 9, 2008, Item 39-B)**

On December 9, 2008 your Board instructed the Director of Planning to take the following actions:

1. Formulate draft standards for development of rural communities within the General Plan Update;
2. Identify provisions that relate to development of rural communities in future outreach efforts concerning the General Plan Update;
3. Make a presentation to the Association of Rural Town Councils (ARTC) no later than April of 2009 concerning rural issues and the General Plan Update; and,
4. Report back to the Board of Supervisors every 90 days identifying how the Department is addressing rural issues in the General Plan Update.

This quarterly report, as directed by your Board motion, summarizes the progress of the Department of Regional Planning (Department) in addressing the actions outlined above.

In late March and early April, the staff released the Preliminary Draft Antelope Valley Area Plan and the Draft Los Angeles County General Plan to the public, and initiated a series of formal and informal meetings to discuss both draft plans with major stakeholders.

On April 28, 2011, the staff provided a joint presentation of the Antelope Valley Area Plan Update and General Plan Update to the ARTC. For the Antelope Valley Area Plan Update, the staff outlined the major changes made to the Draft since May of 2010, including changes to the land use policy map and goals and policies based on

additional input from major stakeholders. The staff also highlighted the release of the Draft Renewable Energy Production Priority Map and related goals and policies, and announced the upcoming community meeting on June 18 at the Lancaster Library to discuss concerns related to utility-scale renewable energy projects in the unincorporated areas of the County. For the General Plan Update, the staff recapped the major regional concepts of the General Plan, as discussed in September of 2010, and provided a walk-through of the Elements of the General Plan. The staff also reiterated that as part of the overall General Plan framework, the Antelope Valley Area Plan serves as the primary tool to address the unique rural characteristics and needs of the Antelope Valley. The major issues raised by the ARTC members and meeting participants include the impacts of utility-scale renewable energy facilities on communities and resources, and the relationship between zoning and zoning enforcement to the draft plans.

The staff will continue to reach out to residents in the Antelope Valley and work with the dedicated and informed representatives of the ARTC, and work closely in conjunction with the Antelope Valley Area Plan Update team, as the Draft General Plan is being revised.

The next quarterly report on rural issues and the General Plan Update will be delivered no later than September 1, 2011. Should you have any questions or concerns, please contact Connie Chung at (213) 974-6417 or cchung@planning.lacounty.gov. For questions related to the Antelope Valley Area Plan Update, please contact Mitch Glaser at (213) 974-6476 or mglaser@planning.lacounty.gov.

RJB:JS:CC

c: Chief Executive Officer, Attn: Rita Robinson
County Counsel
Executive Office, Board of Supervisors
Wayne Argo, President, Association of Rural Town Councils